



The Child, Adolescent and Family Branch of the Federal Center for Mental Health Services

The Child, Adolescent and Family Branch (CAFB) of the Federal Center for Mental Health Services promotes and ensures that the mental health needs of children and their families are met through home- and community-based systems of care.

Systems of care are developed on the premise that the mental health needs of children, adolescents, and their families can best be met within their home, school, and community environments. The Federal programs that are administered by the CAFB are developed around the principles of culturally competent, child-centered, family-driven services that revolve around the strengths of the child or adolescent being served. At the heart of system of care programs is interagency collaboration at the community level.

The Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services Program for Children and Their Families provides resources to States, communities, territories, Indian tribes, and tribal organizations to improve and expand their systems of care to meet the needs of children and youth with serious mental health needs and their families. Since its authorization in 1992, the program has funded a total of 121 programs across the country. There are currently 56 active system of care communities. For a directory of current system of care communities, please visit: www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/ResourceDir/Comprehensivehome.aspx.

Other programs administered by the CAFB include:

- Statewide Family Networks
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Substance Abuse State Infrastructure Grants (CA-SIG)
- Circles of Care
- Partnerships for Youth Transition